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NEXT ISSUE

WORDSTAR SETUP - More ideas KEYBOARD MODIFICATIONS FAULTY SWITCHES ? Replaceing them BOOK REVIEW - Doing business with Supercalc PROGRAMMES FOR YOU TO RUN

and if there is room - MORE MORE ______

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DEADLINE

Deadline for any issue is now the ========== the monthly meeting dates. Material can be handed to the ====== the month now.

EDITORIAL.

You will have no doubt noticed some chopping and changing in the past few issues of your newsletter. If you have then I think I'd better tell you why.

As you know both Aus Borne l and your newsletter are very young, like all youngsters it is growing very fast. We need to keep holding it little to stop it from running out of control. Your back just a little to stop it from running out of control. Your committee is here to serve you so you don't want to belong to a group 02 that can not control it's actions.

02 What we are trying to do then, is to find the best possible formula at 02 the best price to give you the best we can, so we change.

02 This issue is no exception. It is heartning to see the number of people 03 who are sending in information to share with all of you, but we would 03 like more. The more material we have to print, the better your like more. The more material we have to print, 03 newsletter will be. The more advertisers we have, the bigger it can be

O4 with much more news and software, letters and helpful hints.
O5 So it's all up to you. Get out there and see who would like to advertise, who would like to write for us, answer questions, become part of 05 the committee, teach programming to those left in the dark. It's your user group, these are your pages. USE THEM and they'll help you to

COMMITTEE REPORT

os I'11 keep it brief and to the point to leave room for more usefull stuff. The main thing to report is that we're looking at setting up an Osborne bulletin board. O.C.C. have offered the Osborne and a 12 Mb 10 Osborne 10 hard disk. This will be heaps of room for the disk library, and those 10 fortunate people with communications will have ready access. For those PORTABLE COMPANION SUBSCRIPTION 11 less fortunate (including myself), there is an opportunity to win 11 Jess Joillande (Including myself), there is an opportunity to win 11 your own software and hardware. Included in this issue is a entry into 11 our guessing competition, and for \$2.00 a ticket you have a chance to 12 win THE MICRO LINK and a SENDATA ACOUSTIC COUPLER. Prizes have been 13 supplied (at an attractive price) from the Osborne Computer Corp. The 14 winner will be drawn at our September meeting. If I may now quote some gumpf about the prizes:

THE MICRO LINK Rec Retail \$114.00

SOME OF THE THINGS WE COULDN'T GET The Micro Link communicates with information services and terminals as well as other microcomputers. With this program, you condust keyboard conversations, send and recieve electronic mail, and exchange text, TALKING TO OTHER COMPUTERS Cont... spreadsheet, data or program files. You simply dial up an information on your open file

WORDSTAR SETUP - More ideas Osborne diskette. After processing the information, you submit it to a colleagues computer by sending the new file through the Micro Link....

CUSTOMISED SENDATA ACOUSTIC COUPLER Rec Retail \$424.00

The Osborne Acoustic coupler is 300 baud origin answer full duplex. So what!! Well this coupler has been re-engineered so that it can plug directly into the modem port on the Osborne 1. The data signal levels and polarity are compatible with the modem port which is not RS232, and the coupler draws its power supply from the computer.

A curly (telephone) cable connects the coupler to the computer. Simple as that!! No power supply, no adapter cable required. Use the Micro Link software package for telecommunications with Midas, the Source, Mainframes etc.

SEE BACK PAGE FOR ENTRY COUPON BUY AS MANY AS YOU LIKE DRAWN AT SEPTEMBER MEETING

IRONING OUT DISK PROBLEMS

The award for original thinking this month goes to our noble Secretary, On recieving a floppy in our Box at the Post Office, Tain MacCulloch. Iain noticed that to fit it in, the inspired mailman folded the disk not once, but twice!!!!!! Iain to the rescue with his Sunbeam iron not quickly restored the disk to some semblance of flatness. His procedure is as follows:

1. Take one folded floppy, and push flattish by hand.

- 7, 2. Place a piece of paper over the floppy (After all, you don't want it damaged).
- 15 3. Turn the steam OFF 20 4. Iron the floppy with a moderate heat.
- _ 5. Give the disk to someone else quickly

THE PROBLEM IS THAT THE DISK WORKED!!!!!!

MILTON'S REVENGE (Milton's the editor) ------

editor at any meeting but should be on disk if longer that a short If you use a 5" monitor, you should not have had any problems reading letter. There's not enough time in the last issue of the news letter. However, we have increased the print Milton size this time for those people accustomed to external video's IAN NAPIER

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

great pleasure that I tap out this article. Since late 1982, I have been trying to establish this group, and on Wednesday, 22nd June it became a reality. THE FIRST annual general

Firstly I would like it publicly known my gratitude to the "interim" committee members. They шv have indeed done a lot of work, which is not transparent on the surface, which is an indication of quality as well as quantity.

At the meeting, the draft constitution accepted, a copy of which is available on disk. (sorry folks, we'll have to charge the old \$6.00 to cover costs.. see below for details)

new committe, which also happens to be the old committe, was not elected as there were less than positions on the committe. nominations The committee is:

President Ian Napier Iain Macculloch Secretary Treasurer Brian Carnev Greg Seekee Librarian

Trevor Bird Librarian (Hard copy library)

Resident

Greg Stringer Expert Editor Milton Worthington

Two or three others will be co-opted to serve on the committee, having expressed that interest.

The bad news is the fees. Firstly let it be understood that all those Members who joined prior to 22/6/83 are financial Members up to June, 1984. However, we have had to put the Annual Subs up to \$25.00 per annum. Any new Members will now pay this plus the new joining fee of \$10.00. WHY?

The initial subs of \$20 was established from a "gut feel" approach some months ago. Now having run the group for several months, we know exactly how much it does cost, and that was more than \$20 p.a. The joining fee also covers costs, such as postage, and our new INTRODUCTORY DISK. Each new Member will be sent this disk which not only has the Constitution. but the library only has the Constitution, but the library listing. Current Members (as I said before) may purchase this disk for \$6.00. This will overcome a few problems we have had in notifying people that they are Members, and requests for the library are Members, and requests for listing.

A11 these matters were placed as motions at the A.G.M., and passed unanimously.

For your information, our membership is now in excess of 170, and still growing.

Financial statements will be published in the next newsletter.

Ian Napier

WORDSTAR FUNCTION KEYS Steve Townsend

Gree Stringer gave a very informative talk on Wordstar at the April Ausborne User Group meeting. By the time he was halfway through the part about function keys I was kicking myself. They're fantastic! Why hadn't I been making use of them before?

This Up until then. I had only used two of them. was to mark out bold print for my C-Itoh F-10 printer (which requires four keystrokes to open and four to close the bold print instruction).

I hadn't extended my use of them largely because I hadn't realised how much time they would save. Also, I had vasuely thousht that it would be confusing trying to remember which of the ten numeral keys referred to which function.

Of course, Gree pointed out that it's simple to remember which is which if you always call them up CONTINUED PAGE 10



/HEN

Well the news is out, both "OMNI" and "A.P.C.", have reports on Osborne's newest entry into the portable computer market.

Called the "EXECUTIVE" & "EXECUTIVE II", they do not look very different from your current Osborne on the outside but inside is quite another.

Osborne on the outside but inside is quite another

The first changes you see is The first changes you see is the enlarged amber screen, expanded to 175~mm (7") diagonally, what is not clear about the new screen it it's ability to handle 24 lines and 80 characters wide as well as inverse vidio, thus giving programmes like supercal the ability to use this feature rather than the "DIM" headers as now. Both disk drives on the left side, slim line and storing 200Kb (14Kb more than the Os-1)

while opposite there's a circular opening where the fan (or atleast it's intake) for cooling has been placed.

The keyboard externally is still the same as the as the blue case units but we understand all the keys are programmable but this is yet to be the confirmed.

Gone is the right disk storage pocket and the need to fiddle around at the back of the unit to find the off switch, it is now right up front where is should be. But the Executive still only weighs in at 12.712 Kg (28Lbs) the same as the Osborne 1.

Inside there are changes too. The memory has increased in size to 128Kb and an increased in disk storage capacity to name a few.

Software has also be upgraded. CP/M has been replaced by CP/M Plus, Wordstar is now version 3.0 U.S.C.D., Pascal and Personal Pearl have also been included but dBASE II has gone, being replaced by a system adapted from a minicomputer.

The Digital utilities package has been replaced by Microsoft's and expanded to include an assembler able to compile Z80 as well as $8080\,\mathrm{programme's.}$

The Executive II is a 16 Bit system with an 8088 co-processor. Disk drives storing ---Kb each and may have in addition to the software listed above Microsoft "Interface Manager or Viscorp's VisiOn"

It will also be able to use all the IBM PC software, a real boost to it's flexibility. There is also something called "Automatic software frequency change" on the power supply ? What ever that is, would someone like to enlighten us please ?

So there you have it except for when, where and the price.

All being well, a limited number should arrive mid to late September with full stocks in October. What we will be getting is also unknown. We may only get the "Executive II" here. Price? The US price is \$ 2495.00 & \$ 3200.00.

As more information becomes available we'll try to keep you informed.

brother HR-15 Compact Daisy Wheel **Printer**

SPECIFICATIONS

Printer HR-15

Interface RS-232C serial, CENTRONICS Parallel

Print speed

Print wheel 96 characters/wheel. Cassette type (Easily changed by operator) Print wheel life 10 million characters Min./wheel

Character/line 110 characters (1/10"), 132 characters (1/12"),

165 characters (1/15")

Paper width 13,5 inch (343 mm)

Copy capacity Original (45 kg) + 4 copies (15 kg) Bi-directional: 10, 12, 15 positions/inch, Carriage motion Proportional spacing, Minimum increment

1/120 inch

Carriage return speed 1.250 ms Max.

Bi-directional, Friction platen Paper feed

Paper feed speed 2.5 inches/second 6, 4, 3 positions/inch Line spacing Minimum increment 1/48 inch

Ribbon Cassette type: Single strike ribbon

(60,000 char, Max.) Multi strike ribbon (150,000 char, Max.) Fabric ribbon (200,000 char, Max.) Correctable ribbon (70,000 char, Max.)

Control panel Indicators: SELECT, POWER, ALARM, COPY, LINE, PITCH

SELECT, LF, TOF, LINE, PITCH, COPY Switches:

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- Super/sub script
- · Auto under scoring
- · Carriage skip movement · Proportional spacing
- Text reprinting
- Clear buffer

Keyboard

46 kevs Kev Key form Step Sculpture Tactile feeling Key touch 2 key Roll over Roll over

408(W) x 20.5(H) x 187 mm (D) Dimension

Weight 1.0 kg



[[[[[[[[[[[[[][AUSSHOP]]]]]]]]]]]]]

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS THROUGH THE SECRETARY, PLEASE PRE-ORDER DISK AND EXTRA HEAD CLEANING DISKS TO BOXES ENSURE THE CASES THEIR AVAILABILITY AT THE MEETING. IN CASES, ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE FOR THE GOODS TO BE COLLECTED DIRECT FROM IAIN.

10 VERBATIM DOUBLE DENSITY, SINGLE SIDED DISKS IN A PLASTIC STORAGE BOX. (THEY WORK FINE AS "FLIPPIES" BUT THE 5 YEAR WARRANTY IS THEN VOID).....\$40

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POSTAGE & PACKING ONLY APPLIES TO COUNTRY TATE MEMBERS, PLEASE ADD \$4 FOR A BOX OF \$2 FOR EITHER THE HEAD CLEANING KIT OR THE INTERSTATE MEMBERS, REFILLS. POSTAGE RATE FOR THE STORAGE BOX ON APPLICATION.

ALL CORRESPONDENCE (EXCEPT LIBRARY DISK ORDERS) PLEASE ENCLOSE A STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE FOR THE REPLY, (MY POSTAGE BILL IS GETTING HIGHER THAN MY ELECTRICITY BILL !!!)

ANY ONE WOULD CARE TO SPONSOR REFRESHMENTS THE MEETINGS, PLEASE LET ME KNOW, FOR \$5 YOU WILL GET THE HONOUR OF HAVING YOUR NAME MENTIONED IN A COUPLE OF LINES OF THE NEWSLETTER, AND YOU WILL BE TOASTED BY 60 ODD MEMBERS WITH YOUR COFFEE.

THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE WOULD LIKE OTHER MEMBERS IN THEIR AREA TO CONTACT THEM, IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR NAME & ADDRESS PUBLISHED, JUST DROP ME A LINE:-

135 HENRY ST, MEREWETHER, 2291. ZAJAC, Tel.(049) 61 3862 ROBERT HOCKING, HEIDELBERG, VIC. 3081

Tel. (03) 490 2882 - 41 6822

PUNCHING AND READING OTHER COMPUTERS FAR, FAR BEYOND "PIP".

If you asked OSBORNE AUSTRALIA two weeks ago if the Osborne 1 could communicate with a DEC PDP/ll $\,$ mini computer, they probably told you that it was possible.

If you asked the AUS BORNE USERS GROUP, the answer is YES. This discussion is a little technical, reflecting the degree of expertise required to establish such a communication link.

_____ LINKING WITH MOST MICRO-COMOPUTERS.

The cable from the RS-232 port of the Osborne to a fully configured RS-232 port of another computer will usually be the same as in the case of the ADM -3A below.

The CP/M Utility that we all received with the machine when we bought it, "PIP", has been found to machine when we bought it, "PIP", has been found to work predictably only with ASCII files which are less than 16 Kbytes. Before using PIP, "STAT" is used on both machines so that each one i simultaneously both "Puncher" and "Reader" Transmission can the proceed is duplex mode.

A widely recommended communications program is "YAM". (Similar programs are in the AUS BORNE Library). This program will also configure the communication rate using software.

Otherwise, you will need to create a special module for the non-Osborne 1 computer, using BSTAM. The addresses (e.g. of LST) or the port number will need to be re-configured. It is this painful task that takes much trial and error.

DEC PDP/11. -----

At least two members are regularly linking with their DEC mini-computers. They use two programs that AUS BORNE has in its library: CONFIG, to get the Osborne 1 up to 19,200 baud, and a terminal to get program.

CONT.....NEXT ISSUE

Well, here's you've the programme all been look-ing for. We lest it our of the last issue by mis-take.

10 POKE 52736!, 52 20 REM 10 POKE ADDRESS!, SCREEN WIDTH 1 TO 127. 20

30 DEF USR 0=52737!

REM 52737 DECIMAL = CEO1 HEXADECIMAL. 40

50 FOR J = 1 TO 2

PRINT CHR\$(26) 60 70

PRINT STRING\$(52,"-")
PRINT "AUSBORNE USER GROUP" 80

90 PRINT "P.O. BOX C530,"

100 PRINT "CLARENCE ST, SYDNEY." 110 PRINT "N.S.W. 2000 23/06/83"

120 PRINT STRING\$(52,"-")

130 PRT=164:GOSUB 290:PRINT "INVOICE 00345"

140 PRT=448:GOSUB 290

TOTAL" 150 PRINT "CODE DESCRIPTION QUANT UNIT 160 PRINT STRING\$(52,"-")

170 PRINT "0001 $\frac{1}{2}$ DISKETTE VERBATIM $\frac{1}{2}$ 180 PRINT "0002 $\frac{1}{2}$ FOG LIBRARY DISK $\frac{1}{2}$ 190 PRINT "0049 $\frac{1}{2}$ PORTABLE COMPANION $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ 5.00 $\frac{1}{2}$ 15.00" $\frac{1}{2}$ 6.00 $\frac{1}{2}$ 36.00" $\frac{1}{2}$ 6.00" 3 6

6.00" 200 FOR I = 1 TO 8 210 PRINT " ½ $\frac{1}{2}$

220 NEXT I 230 PRINT STRING\$(52,"-") 240 PRINT "

250 PRINT STRING\$(52,"-")

260 X=USR (0)

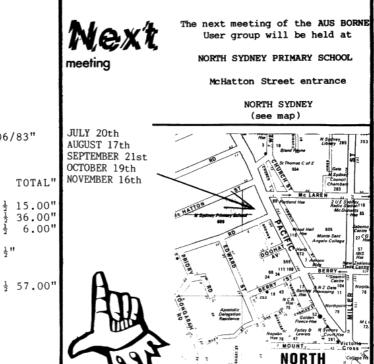
270 NEXT J

280 END

290 YPOS = INT(PRT/64)

300 XPOS = PRT MOD 64 310 PRINT CHR\$(27)+"="+CHR\$(YPOS+32)+CHR\$(XPOS+32);

320 RETURN



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ME



dBASE II

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29.4.83

Dear Sir, *

Please find attached a Wordstar "D" file with the article "BASIC/Z, WORTH THE PRICE?" which, I hope, be of use for a forthcomine edition of AUS BORNE 1. To forstall any possible misunderstandings, I am strictly a user and have no financial stake in the propagation of BASIC/Z in any form.

Would you please return the disk to me at the next meeting of the Osborne User Group? Many thanks. Yours sincerely, Fred Backer

ED: Many thanks Fred, it, s included in this issue. _____________________________ BASIC/Z, WORTH THE PRICE?

Compiling BASICs have been with us for quite a while. They are especially used in commercial applications. CBASIC, which comes with every Osborne, is one example. One main advantage of compiling BASICs is that they run very much faster than interpreter versions. Also you don't have to distribute your sourcecode to all users and you can easily configure them into a turnkey system by appropriately wording your AUTOST program. Your program then whizzes into action as soon as you load the disk end press RETURN.

I like to debug my programs in an interpretative mode and only compile them when I am sure they are running the way I intended. This is why I have never been too keen on CBASIC, it has many idiosyncrasies that are different from MBASIC and other popular BASIC dialects. CB/80, hailed by some as the best thing since sliced bread, is much the same in this respect. The Microsoft people will sladly sell you an MBASIC compiler but it's price, and the number of disks involved, will make you gasp.

BASIC/Z, presented at the recent Sydney computer show and locally available from The Software Source seemed to provide a reasonable alternative and having worked with it now for several weeks I must say that from my point of view the features I like far outweigh the ones that I don't.

Most importantly the system worked first up and have not found any buss yet. Strictly speakins this should not rate a favourable mention but unfortunately these days it does. Apart from some peculiarities BASIC/Z has a lot in common with MBASIC and I found that I did not have to make too many changes before I could compile programs originally written in MBASIC, provided they had been saved in ASCII. Once compiled they ran like fury. All floating point math is done in BCD and you can

specify the precision you want, from 6 to 18 digits. Such accuracy can be of help especially if you are involved in a lot of engineering design calculations.

BASIC/Z has a slew of other features including sophisticated string handling, built-in sort and search functions and video addressing which may or may not interest you depending on your applicat-Beins a convert to structured programming I was pleased to be able to do not only WHILE...WEND but also DO...UNTIL loops.

The editor is a dream. I hate cryptic error messages and am sometimes given to violence when synerrors crop up at runtime, especially after midnight. BASIC/Z signals any syntax errors as you first type in each line and obligingly puts a pointer underneath the line at precisely the spot where the error is located. Global search and change functions can make life easy, particularly when adapting programs written in another BASIC. you have been using the variable SMITH throughout a program and you want to change it to FOO\$. On entering the appropriate search and change masks the editor will change them all you, one by one, throughout the program.

BASIC/Z supports two ways of random file handlins, formatted and unformatted. The formatted mode, peculiar to BASIC/Z, allows you to specify any record length so you can cram the maximum amount of information into you data disk. If you want to keep your data files compatible with other languages, however, you should stick to the more usual unformatted mode. You can insert an error trap

into the file opening statements to ward off

dreaded "BDOS error on B:" syndrome.
Now for the bad points or, if you like, the irritants. BASIC/Z will not let you delare your variables (DEFSTR, DEFINT etc.). Also because of it's many special features there is a lone list of reserved names and this can be a trap at first. BASIC/Z will not, for instance, accept my favour-ite variable name FALSE.

I still find it somewhat annoying that BASIC/Z does not use the PRINT USING command like just about any other BASIC. It does, of course, support formatted output, it just has its own unusual way of defining things. The manufacturers claim that their way is much better because you can do much more with it. I suess I will set used to it.

The documentation is exhaustive and clearly written but it is strictly in form of a reference manual without any real examples. The manufact-urers apparently assume that the reader is an experienced programmer and knows his or her BASIC backwards. Don't expect a tutorial.

Is BASIC/Z worth its \$490 pricetas? For the occasional hacker perhaps not. If you are involved in a lot of serious programming, however, BASIC/Z may well be worth a serious look. f.jb 830429 _____

BEEP THE BEEPER

_____ Looking through the FOG and CP/M disk libraries the other day I noticed an interesting program called "TEACH" that purported to teach morse code. The problem was that the programmer had heard of the OSBORNE 1 and had not taught "TEACH" how to beep the OSBORNE beeper. Of course, beeping the beeper is quite mandatory for a morse code program.

Exploring things documented (like the schematics OSBORNE sent me) and the undocumented (like most of the OSBORNE CBIOS). I found how to beep it, which is what this article is about.

The most obvious way to beep the beeper is to use the ASCII BELL character. This is done by hitting control G when you have the CP/M prompt, or by the statement PRINT CHR\$(7) in BASIC. However this isn't very satisfactory if you want to vary the length of the beep for the dits and dahs of morse

There are at least a couple of ways to control the duration of the beep when beeping the beeper. I'll demonstrate one way with a program written in MBASIC and another way with an assembly language routine.

As shown on sheet 5 of the schematics, (labeled audio alarm) is driven from bit 5 of port B of a 6821 peripheral interface adapter (PIA) chip. Also evident is that in addition to the beeper, this chip controls what is displayed on the screen and turns the two disk drive motors and off. Also, the only way to talk to this chip is in shadow mode.

When CBIOS (the CP/M Basic Input/Output System) sends data out to the screen, it checks EF62 hex in RAM to see whether the beeper and the disk drive motors should be on or off. Bit 5 controls Bit 5 controls the beeper, bit 6 drive A, and bit 7 drive B. Bits 0 through 4 apparently have something to do with the vertical position of the text on screen (which line is on which row). The fol The following BASIC program demonstrates control of the beeper by setting bit 5 on or off and then sending a character to the screen in order to output data via the PIA chip.

- 10 REM: PROGRAM TO BEEP THE BEEPER
- 20 INPUT"ENTER A NUMBER FROM 1 TO 5, THEN HIT CR: " » N
- 30 IF N>5 THEN 120: REM: EXIT IF N>5
- 40 FOR I=1 TO N:GOSUB 60:NEXT I: REM: BEEP N TIMES
- 50 GOTO 20: REM: LET'S DO IT AGAIN
- 60 POKE &HEF62, &H20: REM: BEEPER FLAG ON
- 70 PRINT I: REM: TURN ON BEEPER
- 80 FOR J=1 TO 250:NEXT J: REM: SETS BEEP DURATION 90 PDKE &HEF62,0: REM: BEEPER FLAG OFF
- 100 PRINT: REM: MUST WRITE TO SCREEN TO AFFECT REEPER
- 110 RETURN
- 120 PRINT: PRINT"EXIT IF >5": PRINT
- 130 END

A VERY SPECIAL LIMITED OFFER TO

AUSBORNE MEMBERS

In the next few weeks you will be able to main access to the Osborne Bulletin Board and you'll be wanting a means of communicating with it. So why wait ? This special limited offer through the pages of your newsletter could take a load off you mind as well as your pocket.

What we have to offer it this. A number of "SENDATA" 300-1200 switch selectable accoustic couplers, with full warranty and instructions for \$ 250.00.

You won't set a better price anywhere in Australia.

Please fill in the form below, write a cheque or set a money order and post it off as soon as you can. First in, first to set one of these brand new couplers. (No they did not fall off the back of a truck)

.SPECIAL OFFER ORDER FORM.					
NAME					
ADDRESSPOST CODE					
TELEPHONE () Home. () Work.					
Please find enclosed my CHEQUE [] / MONEY ORDER [] for \$ 250.00 Tax inc and \$ 5.00 for postage. I understand that if the "SENDATA" accoustic couplers are all sold I will receive my cheque back by return mail. I understand that you will do the best you can to fill my order.					
SIGNATURE					
[Please make cheques/money orders payable to the "AUSBORNE User Group".]					

OPEN FILE ______

FROM: D. D Grant,

KILSYTH. VIC. 3137.

Dear Sir,

Thank you for sending Volume 1, No.3 of the UG newsletter. With my application to join the UG. I include a request for a list of Victorial members. As I am sure you can appreciate, the usefulness of the UG to Victorian members would be enhanced if contact between them could be enabled and meetings I am personally prepared to assist with arranged. official coordination of UG members any in Victoria, including library coordination, and would be pleased if you would write to me on this matter.

In the newsletter I noted a reference to the "President" Double Density potion. I purchased my Osborne second-hand, and at the time of purchase I did not know that more that one DD option existed. My machine would appear to have the "Fresident" option, and as such I cannot read genuine Osborne DD disks. Likewise it does not have the ability to read "Cromemco" formatted disks, and I find this annoying and restricting, since I use a "Cromemco" at work. I would be pleased to know whether there is any "solution" other than having a genuine Osborne DD card installed.

ANOTHER LETTER

FROM: J Clark, LINDFIELD.NSW.

Dear Sir,

I read with interest, an article in the May issue of "YOUR COMPUTER" in regard to changing the loading of CP/M so that the "AUTOST" program is stopped. The article seems to isnore the fact that there are two different BIOS programs issued for the OSBORNE 1 (actually more that two, but there are two main releases namely 1.3 & 1.4).

The methods used in the magazine are not 100%, so

I have submitted the correct methods.
1. Put CP/M Disk in Drive A.

(This disk should include SYSGEN & DDT)

- Boot the system & exit to CP/M.
 Run SYSGEN, Answer 'A' to source, and RETURN to destination.
- 4. Enter 'SAVE 39 CPM.COM' to save the system to
- 5. Enter'DDT CPM.COM'.

Now is the important part!

For Single Density Systems (Vers. 1.3) Enter

Enter 'S2009' and RETURN -01 Enter value '00' and RETURN Enter '.' and RETURN

The '-' prompt should now appear.

Enter CTRL C to return to the 'A' prompt.

- Enter 'SAVE 39 CPM2.COM'
 - (to save modified version to disk)
- Run 'SYSGEN', Answer RETURN to source and to destination. 7 A 7

For DD Systems, as above with one change. The address to be changed by the command 'S' is 2010 so the command will be 'S201C'.

Hope this will help some of the members of group.

THANK YOU

_______ Many thanks to John for this informative letter. ED.

------CAN YOU HELP ?

______ Is there a way around Doug's DD problem ?

Can you let him know how to have his Osborne read Cromemco formatted disks ?

Is there another user group already in operation in Victoria ?

26th April, 1983,

Dear Sir,

My problem relates to the use of Supercalc. Most of my technical calculations are only ibly reported to one decimal place. Can anyone advise me how to instruct Supercalc to

do this?

Yours faithfully,



Dear E.P.P.

Just a few things that might help you in future. There were a few anxious moments when your package arrived. You see we did not know untill it was opened that there was a disk inside. Why? I hear you ask! Your padded bas was folded double, so was the disk.

When you receive the June issue of the newsletter you will see a section called "Ironing out disk problems" you will know who gave us the idea. THANK YOU.

NEXT: I am not sorry you took our suggestions re sending info in on disks to heart. We are happy to receive "SHORT" letters like your's on paper, it's just those persons who send in 10+ hand written (scribbeled) pages. For all the trouble you have sone to, you will find some software from the

ibrary that you may find helpful.

AND AGAIN: On page 229 of "DOING BUSINESS WITH SUPERCALC" by Stanley R. Trost - Sybex \$19.95.

VALUES: Are numbers - either entered or computed.

A value can contain a decimal point, positive or negative sign, or it can be entered in scientific notation. A value cannot contain a comma.

LEGAL VALUE ENTRIES: 123

ILLEGAL VALUE ENTRIES:

-123.2

123,456

1.23E2 (SCIENTIFIC NOTATION 3

"THE POWER OF SUPERCALC" \$13.95 Page 7-5

:: 1:RESULTANT FORCE 21 31 15 4: F2= 17 30 51 a= R= 30.91412 <*> 61

These would seem to indicate that Supercalc is able to deal with more that one decimal point. It's all in the programming. E9;(*>

 $SQRT(((B3^2)+(B4^2))+(2*B3*B4(COS(B5/57.3))))$

I have never had to deal with figures that would give more than two decimal places. (\$5.00) You will find some more informed information in the next few issues of the newsletter.

LASTLY: When you send disks in, please, please, pack—the—disk between two stiff sheets of—cardboard and mark the pack:

> "DO NOT X-RAY" "DO NOT BEND" "MAGNETIC MEDIA"

Etc, Etc, Etc.....or words to that effect:

Thank you again for writing to us, we hope you will continue to do just that if you have more problems, or solutions. The EDITOR.20 05 83.



RET

This next routine, which must be located above 4000H to avoid THE SHADOW, turns on the beeper for a duration determined by the LXI B and LXI B instructions. The routine drives the PIA directly rather than soins through CBIOS as in the MBASIC program above.

LABEL INSTRUCTION COMMENTS CALL OEBC9H SENTER SHADOW MODE REEP LDA 2CO2H GET PIA STATUS ORI 20H ;SET BIT 5 2002H ; BELL ON LXI B, 2 SET DELAY LENGTH CALL DLY1 :WAIT LDA GET PIA STATUS 2C02H ANT ODEH RESET BIT 5 STA 2CO2H BELL OFF CALL OEBD7H LEAVE SHADOW MODE RET ;EXIT DELAY SUBROUTINE DLY1 LXI D,0 DLY2 DCX D MOV A.D ORA Δ JNZ DLY2 DCR C DLY1 JN7

In my OSBORNE (MONITOR 1.2) the routines at EBC9 and EBD7 contain the code for entering and exiting shadow mode. If this is not true for your OSBORNE, you'll have to find them, or use the routines shown on page 8-2 of the OSBORNE 1 User's Guide (looseleaf version). Address 2002 is Port B of the Video PIA (page 8-38 of User's Guide).

_____ WORD COUNTING PROGRAM Steve Townsend

WORDNO is an MBASIC program to count the words in a WordStar file. I due it out of an issue of the British magazine "Practical Computing". It's slow as a wet week (about 90 secs per 1000 words)

but a lot faster than doing it by hand.
It's designed specifically for WordStar on Osborne 1 so it handles control characters without any problems. It counts hyphenated words as one unless the hyphen is at the end of a line - in which case it counts it as two. Asterisks, ampersands, and other isolated symbols will be counted as words. It won't count the last word in a file unless it has been finished off with a <cr>.

```
100 ' WORDNO - A PROGRAM TO ESTIMATE WORDS
110 ' IN A WORDSTAR FILE.
120 ' C 1982 BY D.R.GREEN
130 ' P.O. BOX 50973, NAIROBI, KENYA
140 DEFINT A - Z
150 N = 0 'SET COUNT TO ZERO
160 LINE INPUT "WHAT IS THE FILENAME?"
           FILENAME$
170 OPEN "I", 1, FILENAME$
180 FLAG = 0 'MARKS A "NON-SPACE" CHARACTER
        WHILE NOT EOF(1)
200 ' REMOVE HIGH BIT FROM CHARACTER ON INPUT
210 CHAR = ASC(INPUT$(1,#1)) AND 127
220 IF CHAR > 32 THEN FLAG =1 ELSE IF (CHAR = 32 OR CHAR =13) AND FLAG THEN
           N = N+1 : FLAG = 0
```

- 230 WEND
- 250 PRINT: PRINT: PRINT "THERE ARE"; N; "WORDS"
- 260 CLOSE
- 270 END

How to use it:

- You can write it up using your MBASIC disc but it's probably easier to do it as a non-document WordStar file. That is, type "N" from the no-file wordstar file. That is, type "N" from the no-file menu — if you wrote it up as a "D" file it would have all sorts of word wraps, soft returns, etc thrown into it. Call the file "WORDNO.BAS".
- The above listing has line breaks in it so it can fit into the column format of this magazine. The only time you put in a <cr> is Isnore them. when you've completely finished the line and due to start a new line number.
- After you've written it in and saved it, press the reset button, take your WordStar disc out of A drive and boot up your MBASIC disc.
- 4.When it gives you the "ok" message type in:

LOAD "B: WORDNO. BAS

When you get "ok" again, type: RUN
You will then be asked, "WHAT IS THE FILENAME?".
5. Take out the disc in B drive from which you loaded WORDNO.BAS and insert the disc containing the file you want counted. Enter the name of the file (preceded by "B:", of course) and hit <cr>
6. Go and make a cup of coffee. By the time you get back, the count will be displayed on the screen. If you want to count other files, just type in RUN and so through the same procedure again.

```
GUESSING
                                                        GAME
10 1FT R=1+INT(100*RND:
                                            150 PRINT "You took ": " sees to set it.
20 LET Y=0
30 PRINT "A random number has been chosen"
                                            160 PRINT "Do you want to #e again ?"
40 PRINT "Try sugssine it. A hint, the number" 170 PRINT " Yes = 1. No = 0.":
50 PRINT "is between 1 and 100"
                                            180 IMPUT L
60 PRINT "GOOD LUCK - You'l? need it."
                                            190 IF L=1 THEN 210
70 PRINT
                                            200 STOP
80 PRINT "What is your guess ?";
                                            210 PRINT
90 INPUT X
                                            220 6610 10
100 LET Y=Y+1
                                            230 PRINT "Too HIGH, try again."
110 IF X=R THEN 140
                                            240 6010 80
120 IF X>R THEN 230
                                            250 PRINT "Too LOW, try again."
130 6070 250
                                            260 50T0 80
140 PRINT "Not bad !!! You sot it !!!"
```

WORDSTAR FUNCTION KEYS cont

Steve Townsend

with the numeric key-pad. The layout of the pad is far more amenable to mnemonics than the row along the top of the keyboard.

Here's how I've set mine up:

Once you have entered the file you are going to edit, this key sets up the right margin (at 50), sets the help level at 2, and turns Justification and Hyphen Help to OFF.
It is ^OR50^JH2^DJ^OH

- This key takes you from boot over to B: drive and asks you what document file you want edited. It will also work if you're lossed onto B: and using a program such as XDIR and want to return to WordStar on A:.
- It is A:WSLB:D

 2 This key gives automatic scroll downwards.

 1 is You can vary the speed by entering numbers: 1 is fast, 9 is slow. Stop scrolling by pressing space
 bar. It is ^QZ
 3 This key saves the file, exits to no-file
- menu, selects print function and enters the name of the file. It is ^KDP^R
- This key takes cursor to left of It is ^QS
- This key is for routine security save. It saves to disc then returns you to original position. It is ^KS^QP
- This key moves cursor to far right. It is ^QD Starts bold print for a C.Itoh F-10 (After carrying out some INSTALL changes to WordStar). It is ^PQW
- Scrolls up opposite of key No.3. It is ^QW Ends bold print for C.Itoh F-10. It is ^PQ&

How to set it up Setting up is quite easy. It's explained quite well in the manual (page 41 of blue covered edition). Just follow the instructions for using the SETUP program on your CP/M system disc.

These function key arrangements are very idio-syncratic and you'll probably find a slightly different system that suits you much better than mine. In particular, unless you have a C. Itoh F-10 printer, you won't want to use the same arrange-ment I have for keys 7 and 9.

However you do it, pay attention to having a logical layout on your keypad. In this one of mine, keys 2, 4, 6 & 8 form a diamond for the directions in which they move the cursor. Key 5 is in the middle because it's one I use when I'm in the middle of working on a file. Etc.

In case you're a real novice, to call UP function of each key you hold down the control key (^) and press the number key - then sit back and

watch it do all the work for you. By the way, after you press ^3 (or any time you're ready to print) you can simply press the ESC key and it will start printing according to the default values. It's much better than pecking away at (cr) all the time - providing you aren't going to alter the default values.

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